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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



April 2019

Release Date: May 3, 2019

Prepared by Analysts of the National Estimates Branch
Current Employment Statistics Survey
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, April 2019

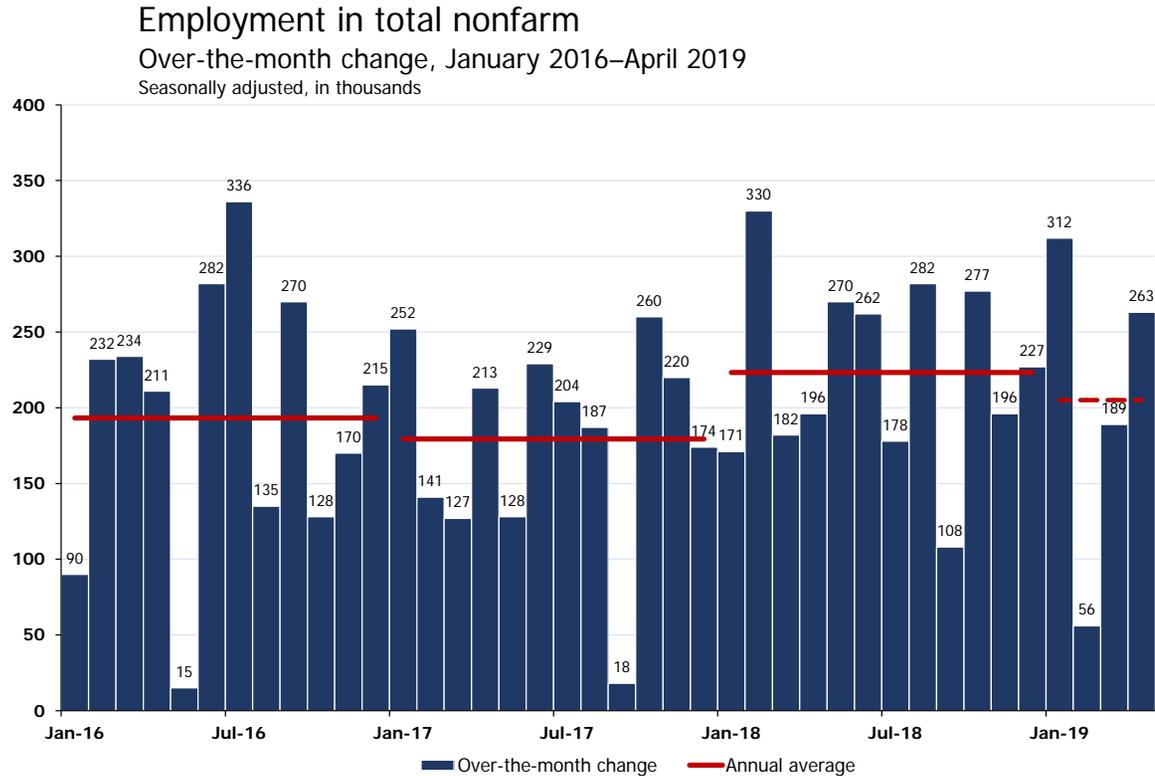
Nonfarm employment increased by 263,000 in April. Professional and business services, construction, health care, and social assistance added jobs.

The employment change for March revised down from +196,000 to +189,000, and the change for February revised up from +33,000 to +56,000. On net, employment over these months is 16,000 higher than previously reported.

Average hourly earnings of all private-sector employees increased by 6 cents in April. Over the year, hourly earnings have risen by 3.2 percent. Average weekly hours, at 34.4 hours, fell 0.1 hour in April.

+76,000 Professional and Business Services

Employment in professional and business services rose by 76,000 in April. Administrative and support services accounted for 53,000 of the increase, including jobs gains in services to buildings and dwellings (+21,000), and other support services (+10,000). Computer systems design and related services also added jobs over the month (+14,000). Over the past 12 months, the professional and business services industry has added 535,000 jobs.



+62,000 Education and Health Services

Health care and social assistance added 53,000 jobs in April. Among health care providers, employment increased in ambulatory care services (+17,000) and hospitals (+8,000), and community care facilities for the elderly (+7,000). Over the

past 12 months, health care has added 404,000 jobs.

Social assistance employment rose by 26,000 in April, with the increase coming in individual and family services.

Current Employment Statistics Summary, January 2019

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, April 2019

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:
263*

+33,000 Construction

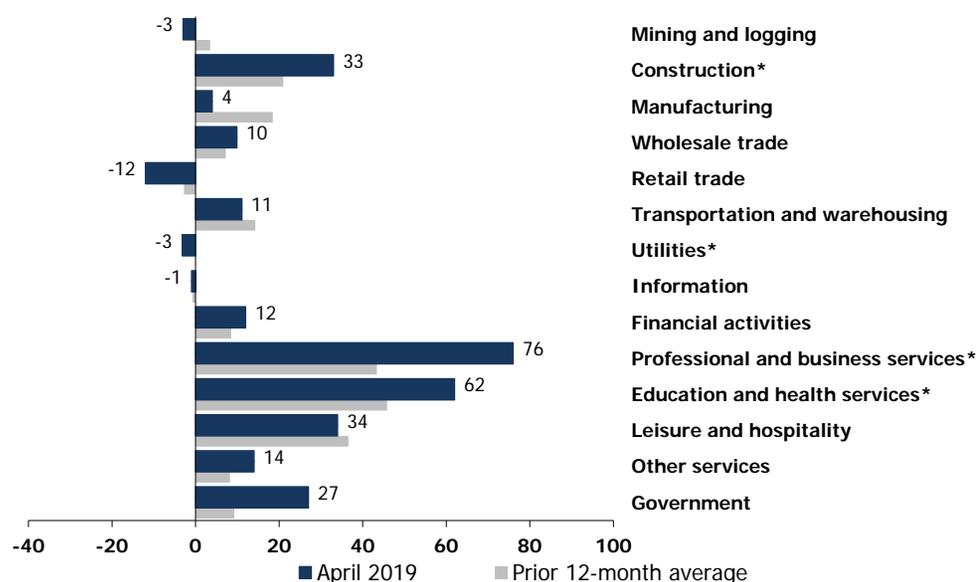
Employment in construction rose by 33,000 in April. Within the industry, nonresidential specialty trade contractors (+22,000) and heavy and civil engineering construction (+10,000) added jobs. As a whole, the construction industry has added 256,000 jobs over the past 12 months.

+34,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in food services and drinking places changed little in April (+25,000). Over the past 12 months, however, employment in the industry has grown by 318,000.

+4,000 Manufacturing

Manufacturing employment changed little for a third month in April (+4,000). In the 12 months prior to February, manufacturing employment had grown by an average 22,000 per month.



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 03, 2019.

Data are preliminary.

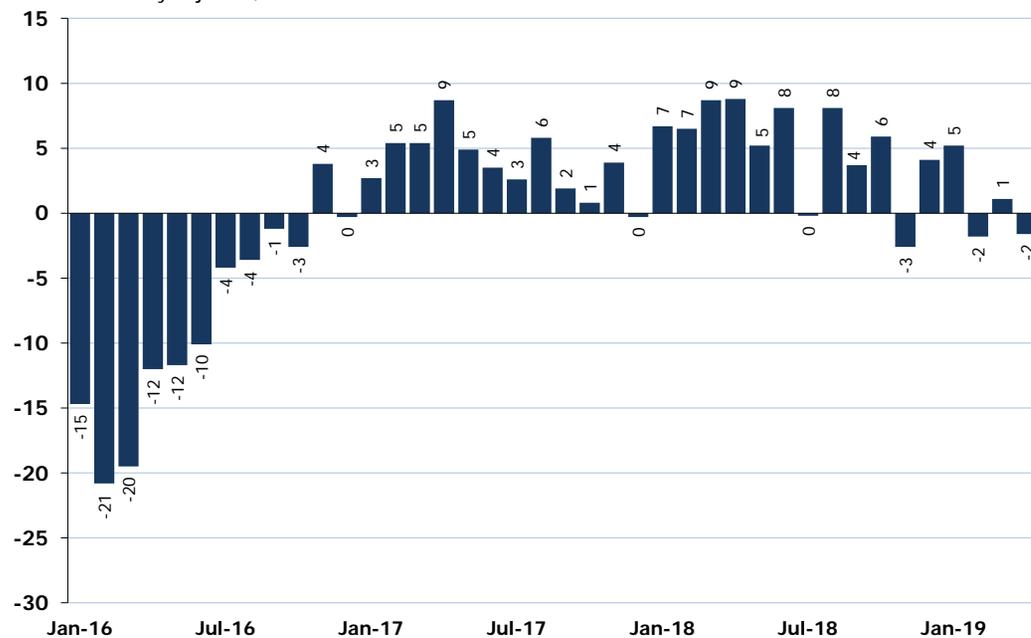
* denotes significance

Mining and Logging

Employment in mining

Over-the-month change, January 2016–April 2019

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 03, 2019.

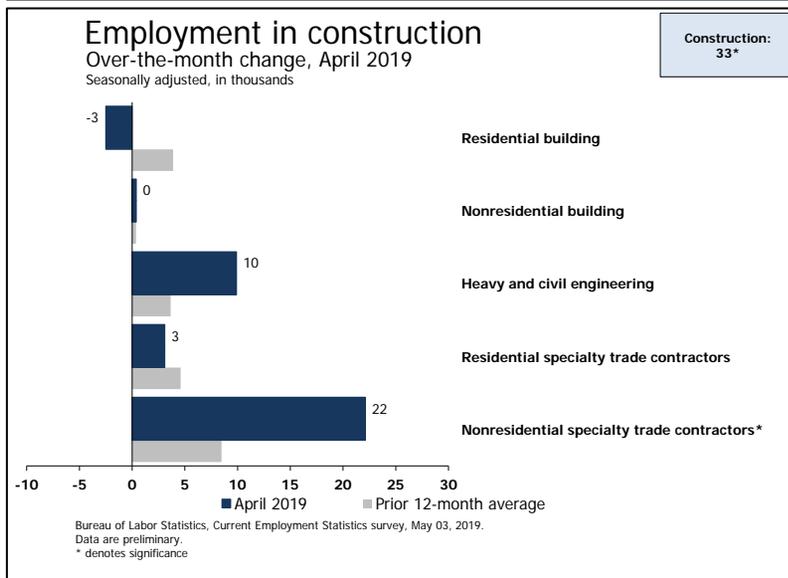
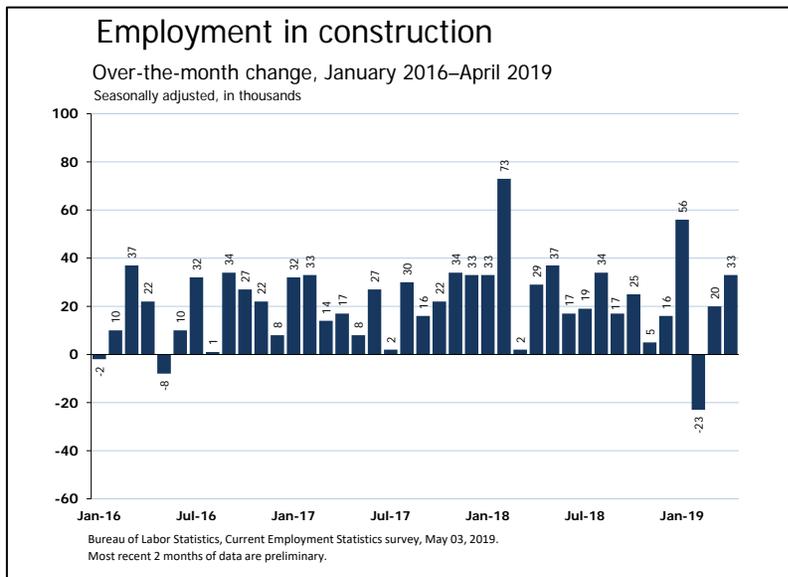
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in mining changed little in April (-2,000). After adding 63,000 jobs in 2018, the industry has seen little change in employment so far in 2019.

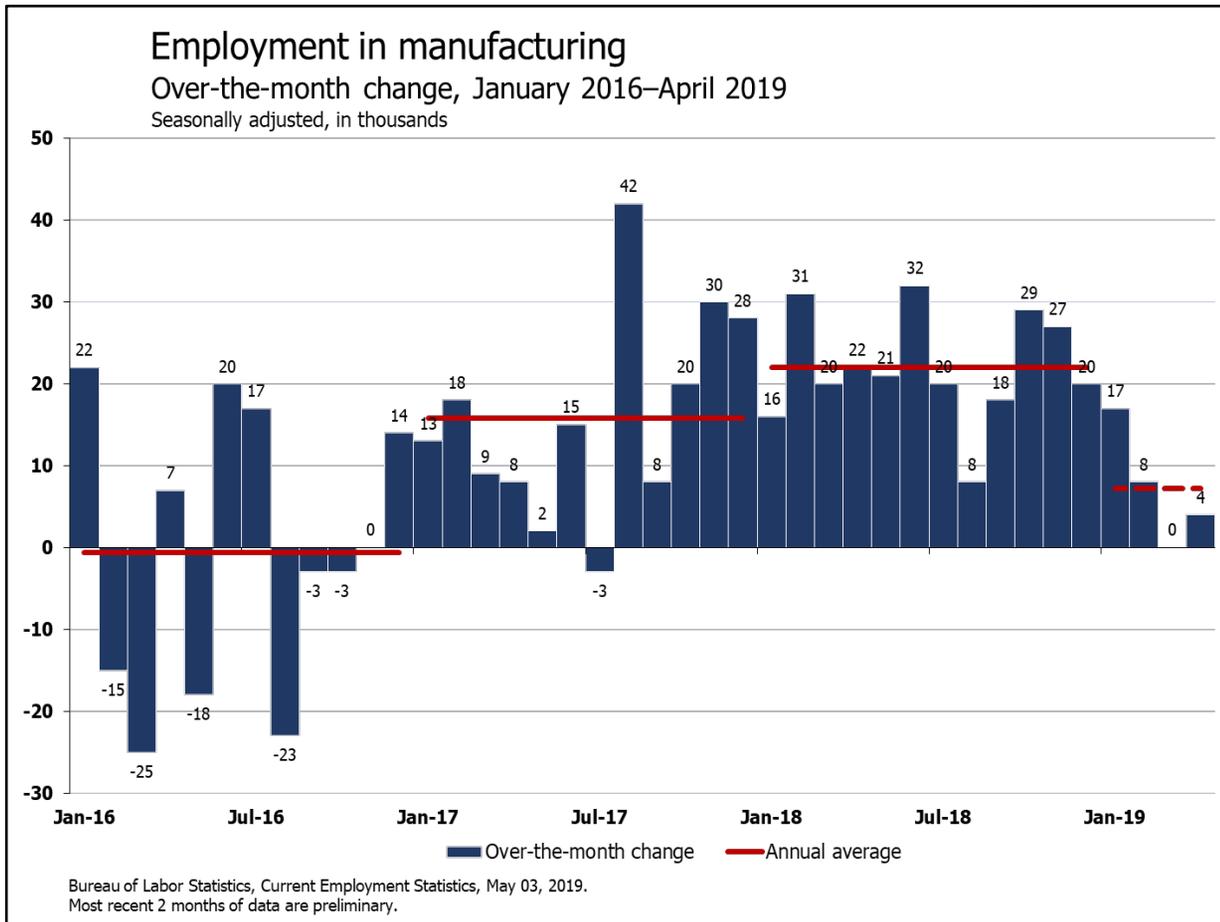
The price of [West Texas Intermediate](#) rose 12.3 percent in April, although the number of active [oil rigs](#) declined.

Construction

Construction employment increased by 33,000 in April. Nonresidential specialty trade contractors added 22,000 jobs, and heavy and civil engineering construction added 10,000 jobs.



Manufacturing

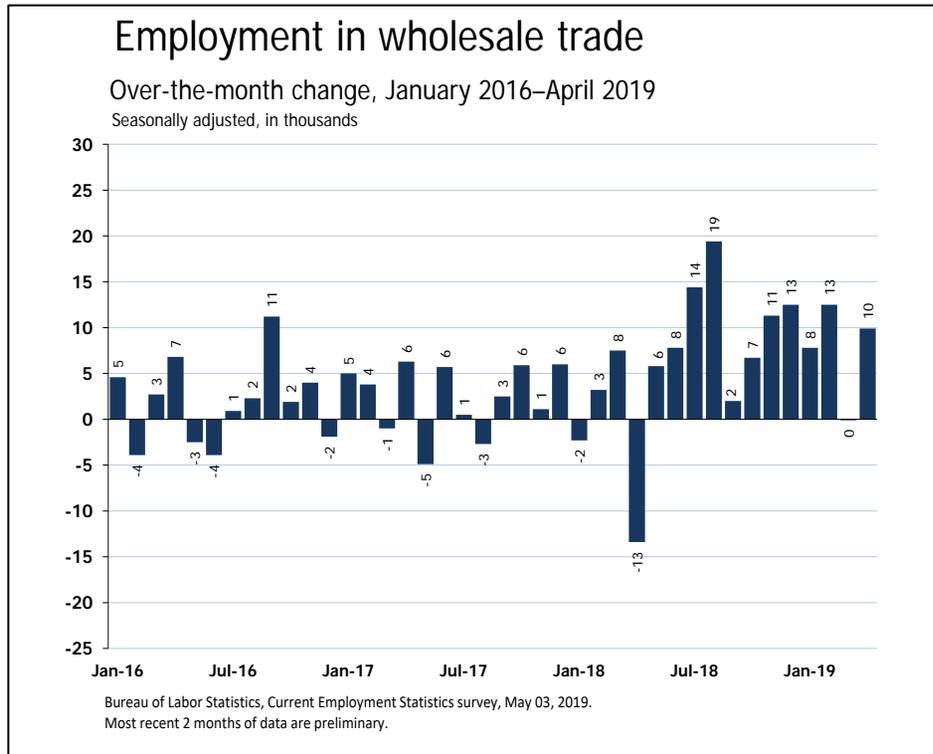


Employment in manufacturing was flat in April (+ 4,000). Electronic instruments added 3,000 jobs in April and has added 15,000 jobs over the most recent 12 months.

The 1-month diffusion index fell by 5.9 points to 48.0. A value below 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are losing jobs than are gaining them. The diffusion index last fell below 50 in May 2017.

The average workweeks of production workers and of all employees remained unchanged at 41.7 and 40.7 hours, respectively.

Wholesale Trade



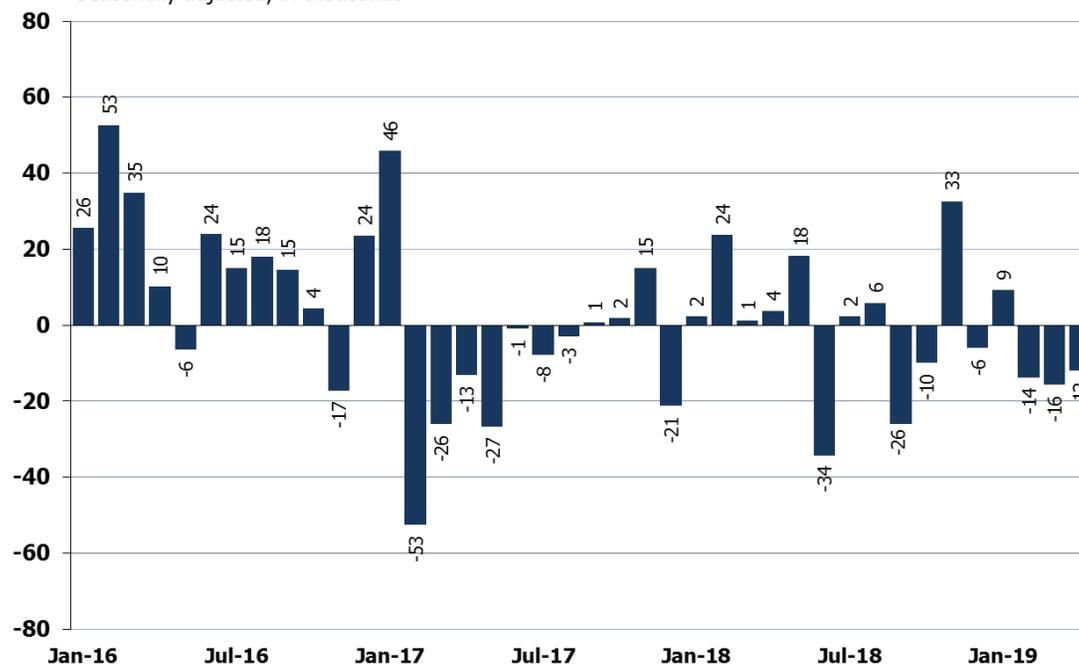
Employment in wholesale trade edged up in April (+10,000), bringing the 12-month net change to +110,000. Durable goods employment continued to trend up over the month (+7,000) and has accounted for 70 percent of the job gains in wholesale trade over the year.

Retail Trade

Employment in retail trade

Over-the-month change, January 2016–April 2019

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



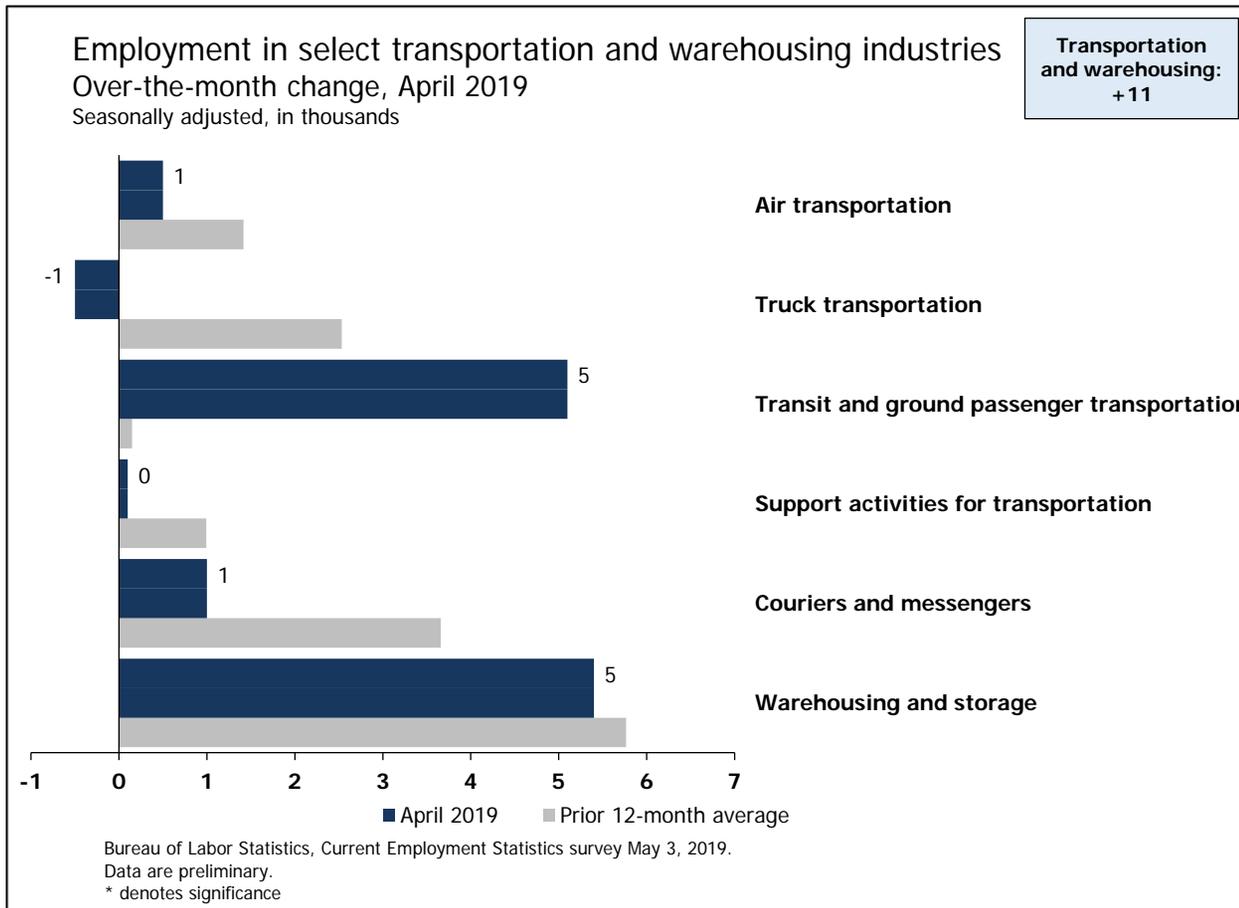
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 03, 2019.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Retail trade employment changed little in April (-12,000). Over the past 12 months, industry employment has shown little net change (-49,000).

Over the month, employment in motor vehicles and parts dealers increased by 8,000, while employment in general merchandise stores declined by 9,000.

Recent retail-related economic indicators have been mixed. [Retail sales](#) increased by 1.7 percent in March. The [Consumer Confidence Index](#) increased by 4.0 percent in April. Conversely, the per gallon price of regular gasoline increased by 10.9 percent in April ([U.S. Energy Information Administration](#)).

Transportation and Warehousing

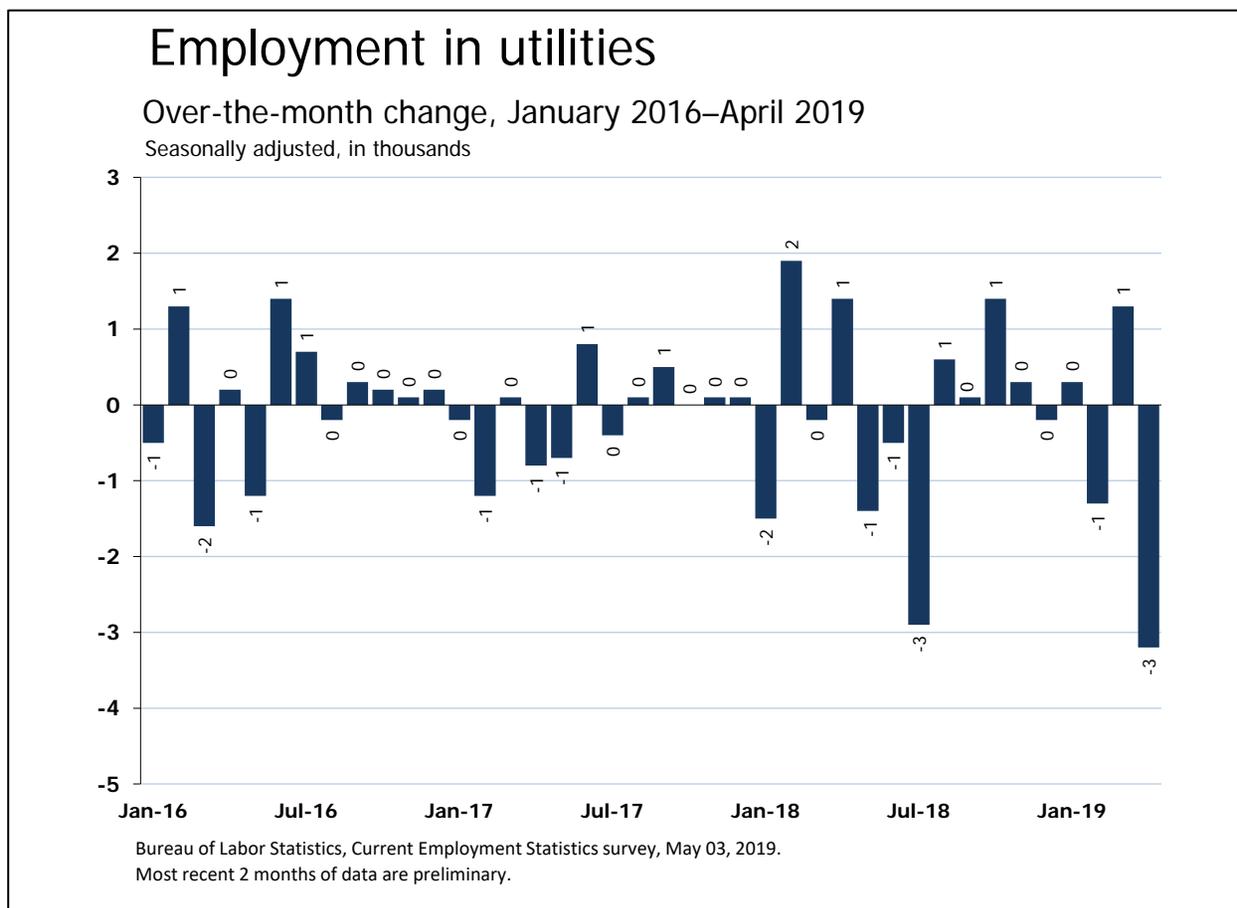


Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in April (+11,000), with warehousing and storage adding 5,000 jobs.

The first few months of 2019 have been marked by slower growth; transportation and warehousing has added an average 9,000 jobs per month, compared to 18,000 per month in 2018.

Utilities

Employment in utilities declined by 3,000 in April.

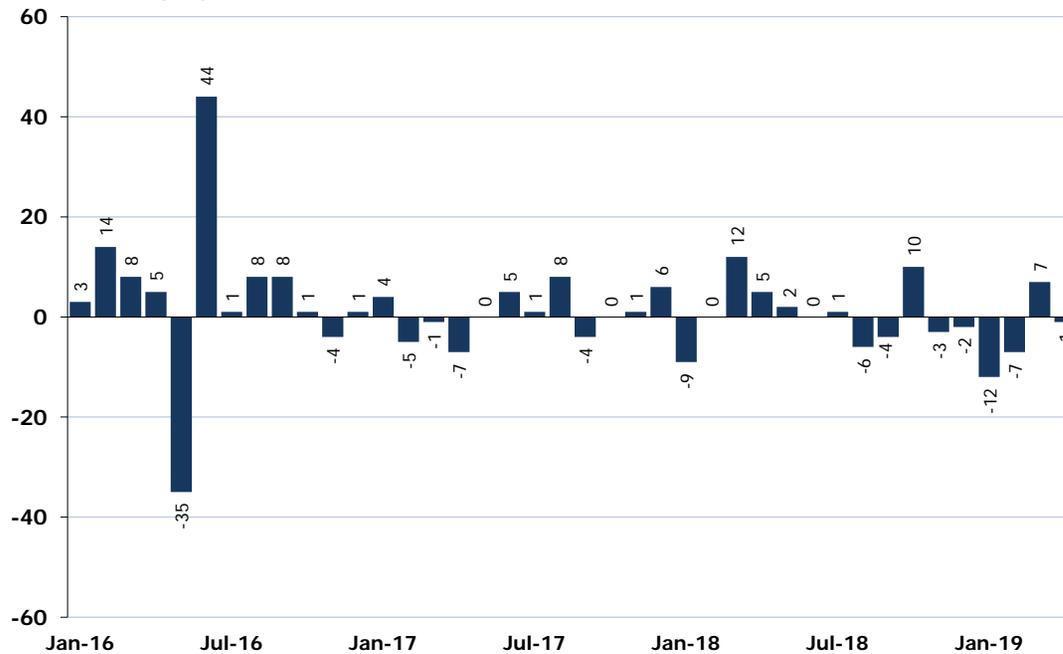


Information

Employment in information

Over-the-month change, January 2016–April 2019

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

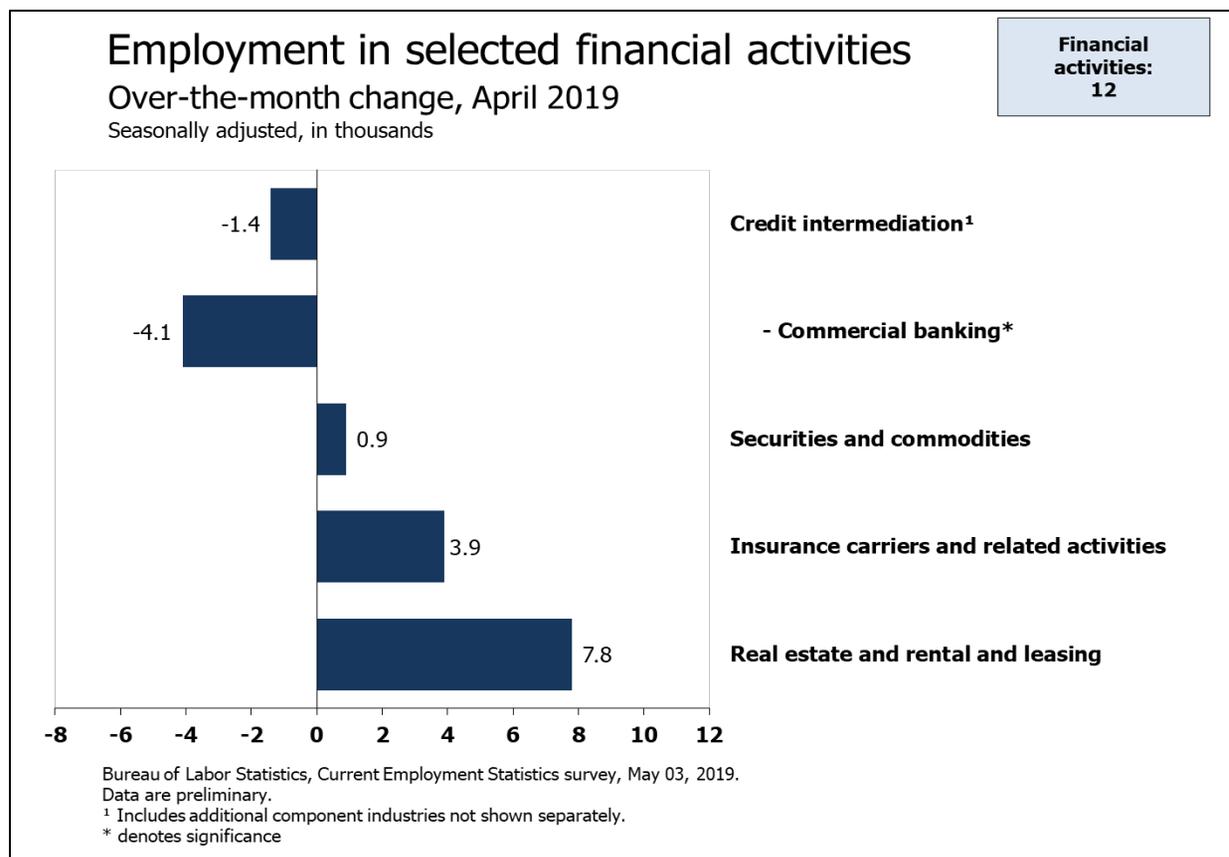


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 03, 2019.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Information employment was flat in April (-1,000) and since the most recent peak in October 2018 has changed little (-18,000).

Among the component industries in April, telecommunications employment continued to trend down (-3,000). Other information services—such as web search portals, libraries, and news syndicates—added 5,000 jobs over the month and 10,000 jobs over the past 3 months.

Financial Activities

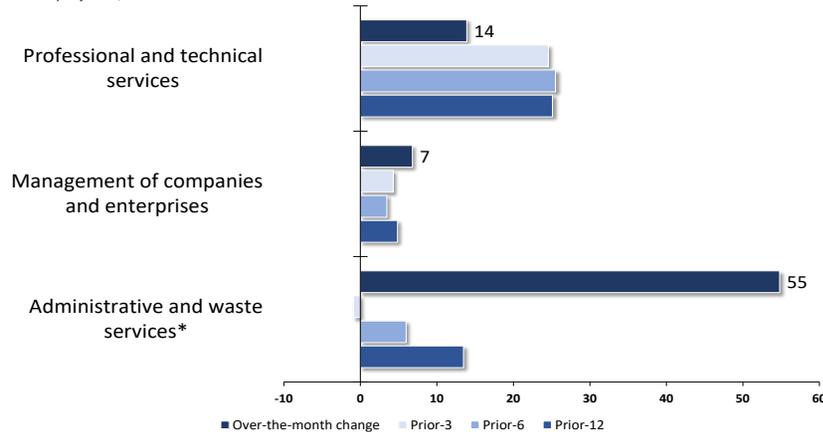


Employment in financial activities continued to trend up in April (+12,000). An upward movement in real estate and rental and leasing (+8,000) was partially offset by a decline of 4,000 in commercial banking. Over the most recent 12 months, financial activities has added 110,000 jobs.

Professional and Business Services

Employment in professional and business services component industries
Over-the-month change and prior averages, April 2019

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, May 03, 2019
Most recent 2 months are preliminary.
* denotes significance

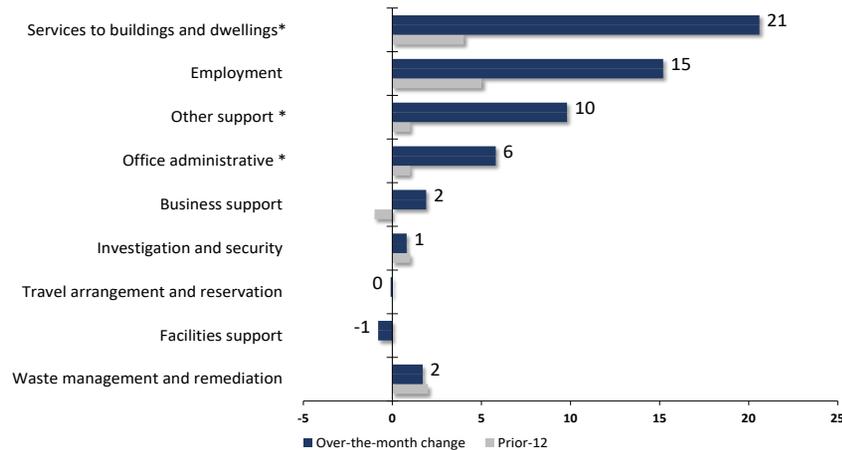
Employment in professional and business services continued to expand in April, advancing by 76,000 and bringing the average monthly gain over the last 3 months to 51,000.

In April, administrative and waste services added 55,000 jobs, accounting for the majority of the employment change. Employment gains occurred in services to buildings and dwelling places (+21,000), other support services (+10,000), and office administrative services (+6,000), all of which were above their respective prior 12-month average changes.

Within professional and technical services, computer systems design and related services added 14,000 jobs over the month, continuing its upward trend and bringing its 12-month net employment gain to 94,000.

Employment in administrative and waste services
Over-the-month change, April 2019

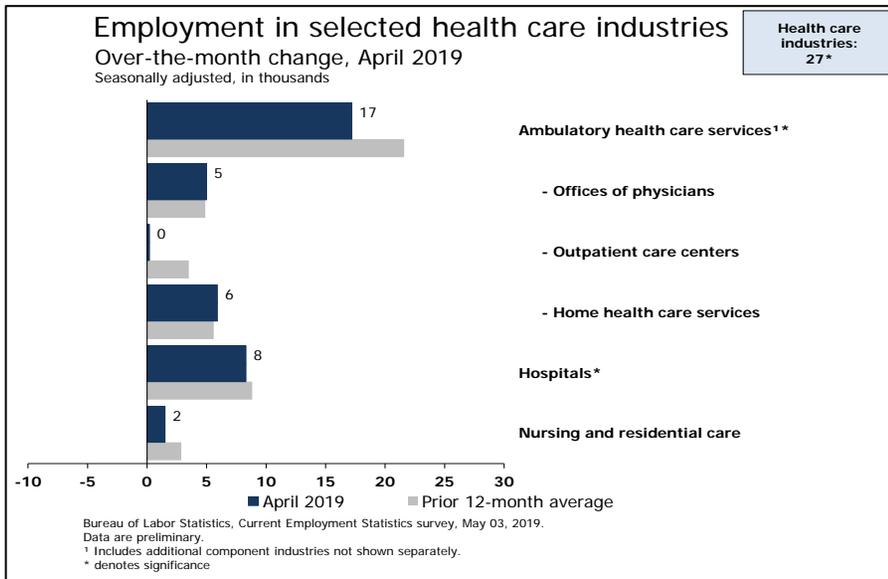
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



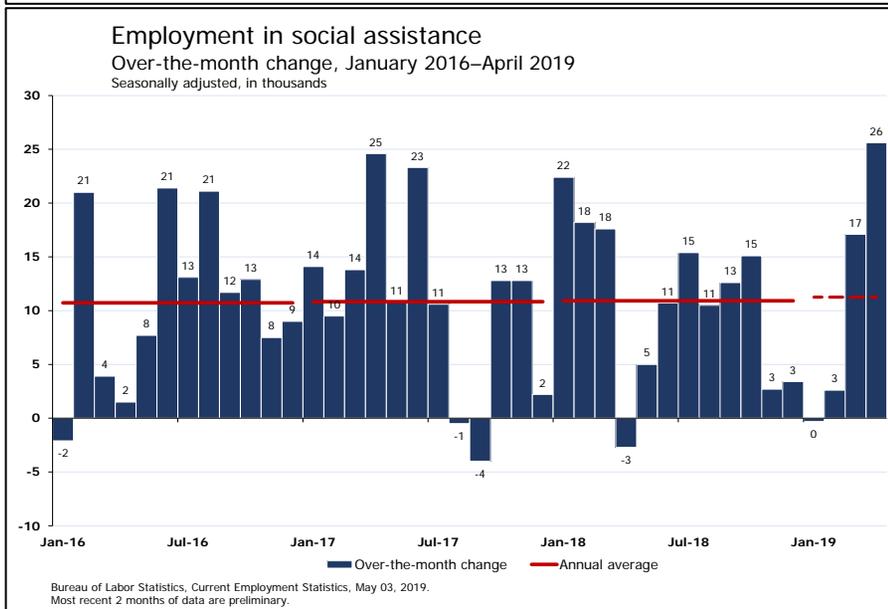
Apr-19: 55
Prior-12: 13

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, May 03, 2019
Most recent 2 months are preliminary.
* denotes significance

Private Education and Health Services

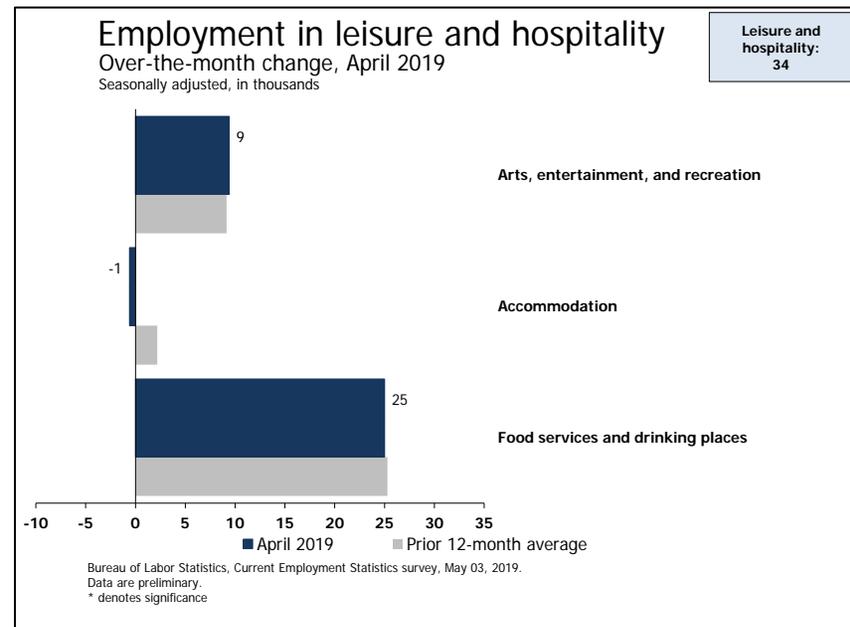
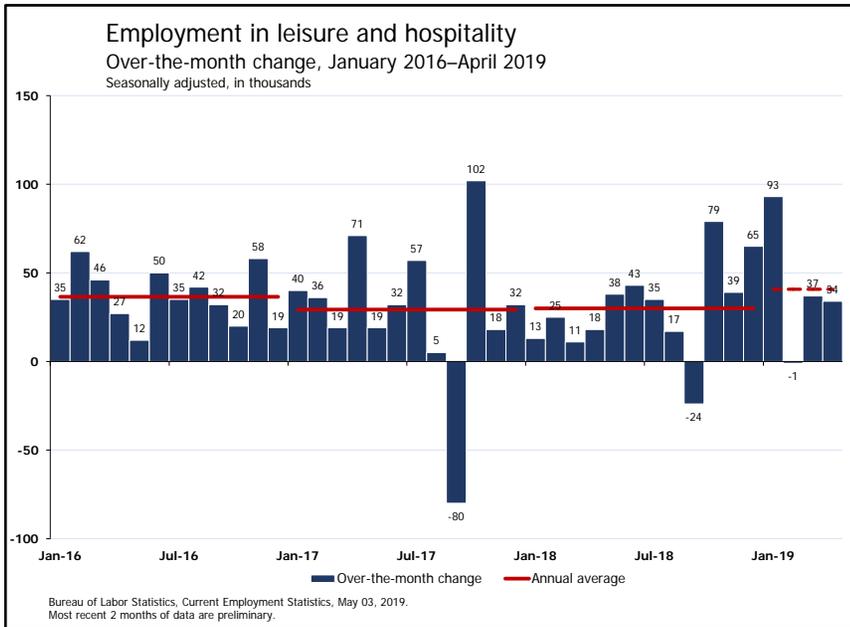


Health care added 27,000 jobs in April. Ambulatory health care services added 17,000 jobs, while hospitals added 8,000. Employment rose by 7,000 in community care facilities for the elderly, a component of nursing and residential care services. Over the past 12 months, health care has added 404,000 jobs.



Employment in social assistance rose by 26,000 in April, with the increase coming in individual and family services. Over the year, social assistance has added 120,000 jobs, with individual and family services accounting for 100,000 of the increase.

Leisure and Hospitality



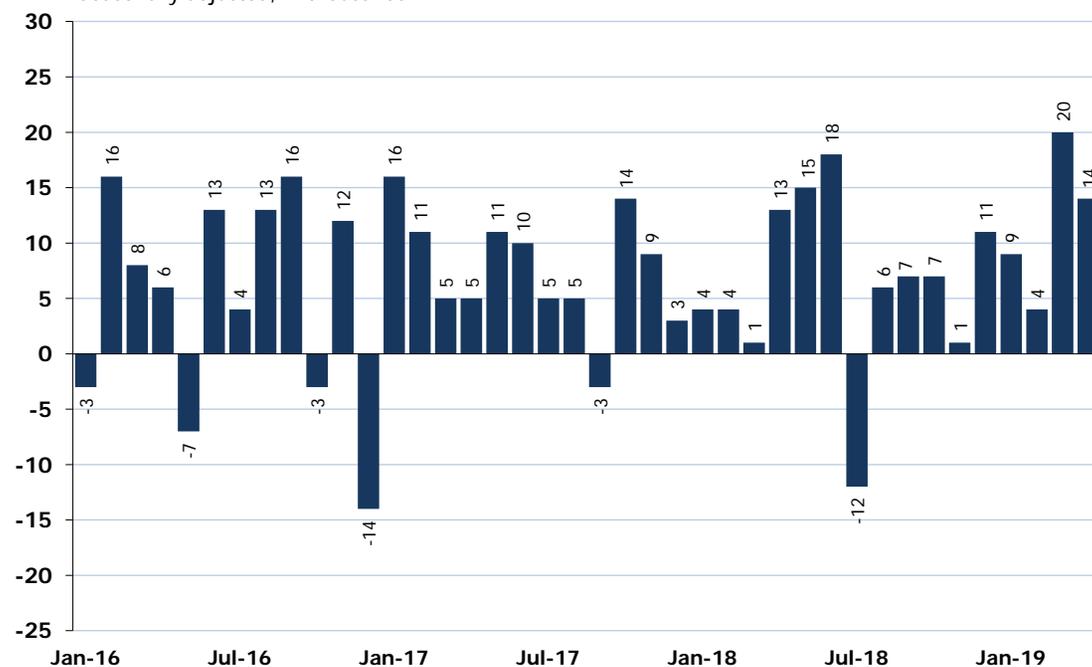
In April, employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend up (+34,000). The major component industries closely followed their prior 12-month averages in April. Increasing [sales](#) in food services and drinking places, coupled with high [Consumer Confidence](#), have likely fueled the upward trend.

Other Services

Employment in other services

Over-the-month change, January 2016–April 2019

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

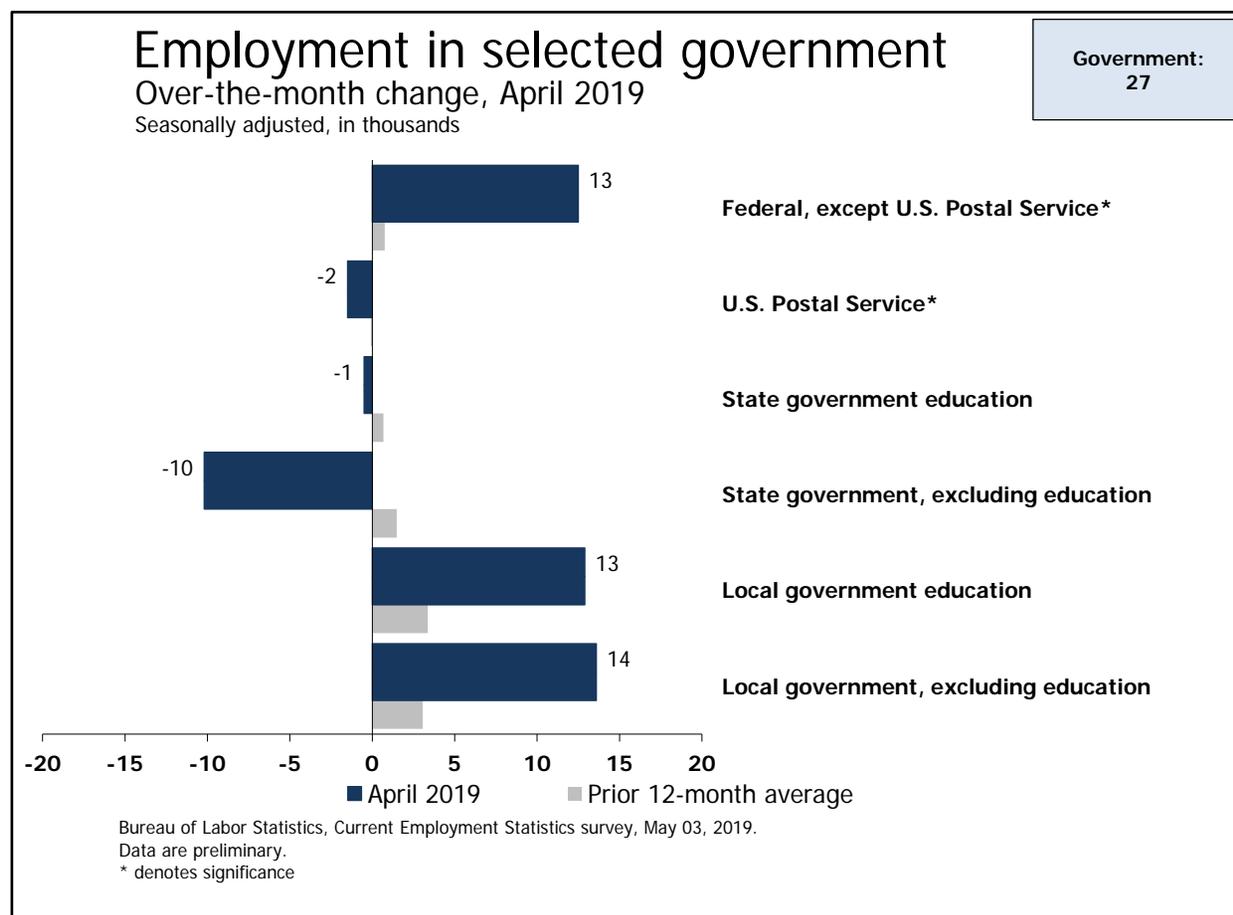


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 03, 2019.

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Employment in other services continued to edge up in April (+14,000). Over the most recent 12 months, the industry has added 100,000 jobs, representing an increase of 1.7 percent. Personal and laundry services accounted for 37,000 of the gains during this period.

Government



Employment in government changed little in April (+27,000). Over the year, government employment has increased by 126,000, with local government accounting for 81 percent of the gain.

Employment in federal, except U.S. Postal Service increased by 13,000 in April, well above its prior 12-month average change (+1,000). The April increase does not reflect hiring of temporary intermittent workers for the 2020 decennial census, which was negligible.



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